

Done With Mirrors and Mikes

Cohen's Letter to Sen. Long Admits IRS Snoopers 'Bugged' Offices Here

Associated Press

Sen. Edward V. Long (D-Mo.) said last night that the Internal Revenue Service has acknowledged it "bugged" conference rooms in cities from coast to coast, using hidden recording devices and two-way, see-through mirrors.

Long heads a Senate Judiciary subcommittee conducting a critical investigation of what he calls "snooping" practices by various Federal agencies.

He has denounced many of the investigative practices, saying they involve unwarranted invasions of privacy not necessary in the solution of suspected crimes.

Long said in a statement that Internal Revenue Com-

missioner Sheldon S. Cohen has sent him a letter "divulging a new and extended list of cities in which IRS had bugged conference rooms . . . the list indicates there are 10 cities with two-way mirrors and 21 cities with concealed microphones."

Among the cities where two-way mirrors were used, Cohen listed Washington in May and June of this year, Alexandria in December, 1963, and Baltimore from December 1959 to June, 1965. He also listed Washington from October 1962 to November, 1963, and Baltimore from 1959 to May 1965 among the cities where IRS concealed microphones in conference rooms. Other cities where two-way

mirrors were used were Kansas City, New York (Brooklyn and Manhattan), Pittsburgh, Detroit, Montgomery, Ala., and Greenville, S.C.

Other cities where concealed microphones were installed were Albany, N.Y.; Albuquerque, N.M.; Austin, Tex.; Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, Tex.; Las Vegas; Milwaukee, Pittsburgh, Portland, Ore.; San Francisco, Dallas, Tex.; Montgomery, Ala.; Oklahoma City, Seattle, Los Angeles, Newark and Philadelphia.

To a person under observation, a two-way mirror looks like any other mirror. But an agent stationed behind it—in a closet or other room—can see as clearly through it as through a window.